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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **TAKAHATA, Yuki, et al.**

Group Art Unit: 2618

Serial No.: 10/553,624

Examiner: **Christian A. HANNON**

Filed: **October 19, 2005**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 6059

For: **FLAT PANEL SPEAKER UNIT AND ELECTRONIC DEVICE COMPRISING  
THE UNIT**

**LETTER**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

September 11, 2007

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the PCT Notification of Transmittal of copies of translation of the International Preliminary Report on Patentability (PCT Chapter II) attached herewith.

This Notification is submitted herewith to be placed in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office file of this case.

Respectfully submitted,

KRATZ, QUINTOS & HANSON, LLP

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Attorney for Applicants

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MRQ/lrj

Atty. Docket No. 050688

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: PCT Notification of Transmittal of Copies of Translation  
of the International Preliminary Report on Patentability (PCT Chapter II).

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

**PCT**

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL  
OF COPIES OF TRANSLATION  
OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT  
ON PATENTABILITY  
(CHAPTER I OR CHAPTER II  
OF THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY)  
(PCT Rules 44bis.3(c) and 72.2)

To:

MARUYAMA, Toshiyuki  
10-12, Nakamiya 4-chome, Asahi-ku  
Osaka-shi, Osaka 5350003  
JAPON



Date of mailing (day/month/year) 09 March 2006 (09.03.2006)	<b>IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION</b>
Applicant's or agent's file reference F1040004WO00	
International application No. PCT/JP2004/005825	International filing date (day/month/year) 22 April 2004 (22.04.2004)
Applicant SANYO ELECTRIC CO., LTD. et al	

## 1. Transmittal of the translation to the applicant.



The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I).



The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

## 2. Transmittal of the copy of the translation to the designated or elected Offices.

The International Bureau notifies the applicant that copies of that translation have been transmitted to the following designated or elected Offices requiring such translation:

None

The following designated or elected Offices, having waived the requirement for such a transmittal at this time, will receive copies of that translation from the International Bureau only upon their request:

AE, AG, AL, AM, AP, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EA, EC, EE, EG, EP, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OA, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW

## 3. Reminder regarding translation into (one of) the official language(s) of the elected Office(s).

The applicant is reminded that, where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned within the applicable time limit (Rule 74.1). See Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide for further details.

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Authorized officer Yoshiko Kuwahara
Facsimile No.+41 22 740 14 35	Facsimile No.+41 22 338 90 90

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

# PCT

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY (Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

Applicant's or agent's file reference F1040004WO00	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b>		See item 4 below
International application No. PCT/JP2004/005825	International filing date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) 22 April 2004 (22.04.2004)	Priority date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) 25 April 2003 (25.04.2003)	
International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237			
Applicant SANYO ELECTRIC CO., LTD.			

1. This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 bis.1(a).
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.  
  
In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- |                                     |              |                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. I    | Basis of the report                                                                                                                                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. II   | Priority                                                                                                                                                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. III  | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability                                                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. IV   | Lack of unity of invention                                                                                                                                      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. V    | Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. VI   | Certain documents cited                                                                                                                                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. VII  | Certain defects in the international application                                                                                                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. VIII | Certain observations on the international application                                                                                                           |

4. The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44bis .2).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland  Facsimile No. +41 22 740 14 35	Date of issuance of this report 02 March 2006 (02.03.2006)  Authorized officer  <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Yoshiko Kuwahara</div>  Telephone No. +41 22 338 90 90
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# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

## PCT

Translation

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Applicant's or agent's file reference <b>F1040004W000</b>		Date of mailing (day/month/year)	
FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraph 2 below			
International application No. <b>PCT/JP2004/005825</b>	International filing date (day/month/year) <b>22.04.2004</b>	Priority date (day/month/year) <b>25.04.2003</b>	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC			
Applicant <b>SANYO ELECTRIC CO., LTD.</b>			

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the opinion
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/JP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/005825

Box No. 1

Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed; unless otherwise indicated under this item.  
☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language  
\_\_\_\_\_, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
  - a. type of material  
☐ a sequence listing  
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
  - b. format of material  
☐ in written format  
☐ in computer readable form
  - c. time of filing/furnishing  
☐ contained in the international application as filed.  
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.  
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/005825

Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	2-9, 11	YES
	Claims	1, 10	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	7, 9	YES
	Claims	1-6, 8, 10-11	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-11	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations:

Claims 1, 10

Document 1: JP 2003-018686 A (Authentic, Ltd.), 17 January 2003, Full text; figures 1-3

The inventions of claims 1 and 10 do not possess novelty on account of document 1 cited in the ISR. "The edge of the vibrating plate (2) rides on a frame (1) and is fixed there," which is described in claims 1 and 10, is disclosed in document 1 as "a surface protection film ... is utilized as a vibrating plate, and its end ... is supported ... on the edge of a case."

Claim 2

Document 1

Document 2: JP 2002-252895 A (Hirohito KIN), 06 September 2002, Full text; figures 1-14

The invention of claim 2 does not involve an inventive step on account of document 1 and document 2 cited in the ISR. The transparent flat speaker described in document 2 and the speaker that uses a transparent surface protection plate as a vibrating plate as described in document 1 belong to closely interrelated technical fields; therefore, employing putting a vibrator 50 at each side as described in document 2 in the speaker described in document 1 could easily be conceived by a person skilled in the art.

Claims 3, 6, 8, 11

Document 1

Document 2

Document 3: JP 8-140185 A (Sanyo Electric Co., Ltd.), 31 May 1996, Full text; figures 1-13

The inventions of claim 3, 6, and 8 do not involve an inventive step on account of document 1 and document 2 cited in the ISR. The flat speaker described in document 3 and the planar speaker described in document 1 belong to closely interrelated technical fields; therefore, employing in the speaker described in document 1 the vibration supply unit that receives magnetic flux created from a magnet 3 for DC magnetic field generation whose drive coil 5 has more windings

Supplemental Box

In case the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient.

Continuation of Box V:

in the lateral direction than in the vertical direction, and receives magnetic flux at an angle to or parallel to a vibrating plate 4 and vibrates the vibrating plate as described in document 2 could easily be conceived by a person skilled in the art.

Claims 4, 5

Document 1

Document 4: JP 2002-533957 A (New Transducers Ltd.), 08 October 2002; Full text, figures 1-17

The inventions of claim 4 and 5 do not involve an inventive step on account of document 1 and document 4 cited in the ISR. The speaker with a transparent protective cover described in document 4 and the speaker that uses a transparent surface protection plate as a vibrating plate as described in document 1 belong to closely interrelated technical fields; therefore, disposing a vibrator 48 at the outside of a display device 51 on a case 41 and providing an electric wire extending to outside the case as described in document 4 and employing this in the speaker described in document 1 could easily be conceived by a person skilled in the art.

Claims 7, 9

Document 1

Document 2

Document 3

Document 4, full text, figures 1-8

The inventions of claims 7 and 9 are not disclosed in any of documents 1-4 cited in the ISR, and appear to possess novelty. In particular, "disposing a coil or magnet at the edge of a vibrating plate and forming the edge of the vibrating plate thinner than the center part" is not disclosed in any of the documents.